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MUNICH FOR CHARIG

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: MARR; IT

SUBJECT: DUNN VANONI
REFS: A) ROME 17542 - 12/19/74
-- B) ROME 12353 - 9/10/74

1. SOMETIME HAS ELAPSED SINCE LAST REPORT ON PROGRESS IN SETTLING LONG-STANDING DUNN VANONI CLAIMS (REF A) AND DEPT HAS BEEN QUERIED ON PROGRESS BY DEPT OF DEFENSE. MOREOVER DOD HAS TRANSMITTED TO DEPT FILE ON REIMBURSEMENT CLAIM OF THE TUMPANE COMPANY WHICH HAS BEEN SEEKING REIMBURSEMENT FOR OVER ONE YEAR. MOST RECENT COMMUNICATION ON THIS CLAIM WAS FROM WASHINGTON ATTORNEYS FOR FIRM AND IT IS CLEAR FROM THEIR LETTER THAT IF REIMBURSEMENT IS NOT MADE "WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY" BY AIR FORCE, THE COMPANY WILL PROCEED TO ITS ADMINISTRATIVE AND/OR JUDICIAL REMEDIES.

2. WE ARE POUCHING COPY OF FILE AND WILL APPRECIATE EM0ASSY'S VIEWS ON WHAT CAN BE DONE TO EXPEDITE REIMBURSEMENT IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ORDER TO AVOID EITHER A SUIT OR DOD PAYMENT OF CLAIM IN AC-

CORDANCE WITH ASBCA RULING IN CESICA CASE. UNDER DEPT'S URGING DOD TEMPORARILY HELD IN ABEYANCE PROCESSING PAYMENT TO CESICA UNDER THE ASBCA DECISION. WE NOW UNDERSTAND THAT CESICA, AFTER FINALLY RECEIVING USG REIMBURSEMENT, HAS BEEN ALSO REIMBURSED BY GOI. THUS CESICA RECEIVED DOUBLE RECOVERY OF TAXES. PLEASE CONFIRM DOUBLE PAYMENT TO CESICA. DOD HAS SUSPENDED ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESSING OF OTHER REFUND CLAIMS BY LOCAL CONTRACTORS AS A RESULT OF GOI'S ACTION TO INITIATE REFUND PAYMENTS.

- 3. EMBASSY WILL RECALL THAT INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN TAX RELIEF WAS INTERESTED LATE LAST YEAR IN MOVING GOI TO EXPEDITIOUS SETTLEMENT OF OUTSTANDING CLAIMS BASED UPON CORTE DI CONTE DECISION AND OFFERED TO ASSIST IN DISCUSSIONS WITH GOI. COMMITTEE WAS ADVISED THAT ITS ASSISTANCE WOULD NOT BE HELPFUL UNTIL MORE EX-PERIENCE WITH THE CLAIMS PROCEDURES HAD BEEN GAINED. THERE IS GROWING CONCERN THAT PROCEDURES ARE CUMBERSOME AND ACCORDING TO REPORTS OF SOME CONTRACTORS COMPLICATED AND EXPENSIVE. IT WILL BE APPRECIATED IF EMBASSY COULD PROVIDE CURRENT ASSESSMENT OF PROGRESS AND SOME GUIDANCE AS TO WHAT INQUIRING CONTRACTORS (OR THEIR LEGAL COUNSEL), CAN BE TOLD RESPECTING SETTLEMENT OF THEIR OUTSTANDING CLAIMS. AS TIME PASSES IT WILL BE INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT FOR DOD TO HOLD UP PROCESSING CLAIMS AND WE COULD BE FACED WITH THE SPECTOR OF GOING TO GOI WITH INTERNATIONAL CLAIM SHOULD USG BE FORCED TO SETTLE THE CLAIMS.
- 4. ONE INTERESTING ATTACHMENT TO TUMPANE FILE WAS COPY OF CLIPPING WHICH APPEARED IN IL GIORNALE D'ITALIA FEBRUARY 8, 1975 WHICH REFERS TO REFUNDS FROM IVA. THIS INDICATES THAT REIMBURSEMENTS ARE MADE FIRST TO SMALL FIRMS AND THEREAFTER TO LARGER FIRMS. DEPT WOULD BE INTERESTED IN EMBASSY'S COMMENTS ON HOW THIS WILL AFFECT PROCEDURES FOR EXEMPTION FROM IVA ON COMMON DEFENSE EXPENDITURES UNDER ARRANGEMENTS MADE BETWEEN EMBASSY AND MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AT TIME IVA CAME INTO LAW.

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